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Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EA/J:WCSHERMAN:RD
APPROVED BY EA - MR. INGERSOLL
EA/PRCM - MR. ROMBERG (DRAFT)
EA/ROC - MR. SULLIVAN
S/S -O: P.SARROS
---------- 073769
O R 032341Z APR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
INFO USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T STATE 067527

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, JA, CH, TW
SUBJECT: JAPAN-PRC CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS

1. ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS, AMB YASUKAWA CALLED ON ASST SECY INGERSOLL TODAY TO REVIEW PROGRESS OF JAPAN-PRC CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS AND REPORT ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

2. AMB YASUKAWA OPENED WITH BROAD STATEMENT OF "POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE" WHICH GOJ ATTACHES TO THESE NEGOTIATIONS, NOTING THAT FROM PEKING'S POINT OF VIEW THEY SERVED AS A TEST CASE IN WHICH JAPAN COULD PROVE ITS GOOD FAITH AND INTENTION TO MAINTAIN THE PRINCIPLES SET FORTH IN EARLIER NEGOTIATIONS. FROM THE GOJ'S POINT OF VIEW THEY PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PEKING TO DEMONSTRATE HOW FLEXIBLE IT WOULD BE REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF TAIWAN.
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3. WITH THESE BROAD PRINCIPLES IN MIND THE NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN PROCEEDING AND NOW HAD REACHED THEIR FINAL STAGE WITH A GOOD CHANCE THAT AGREEMENT COULD BE INITIALED BY MIDDLE NEXT WEEK.

4. MEANWHILE, THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS EFFORTS BY GOJ TO CONVINCE ROC AUTHORITIES ON TAIWAN THAT PRESENT AGREEMENT WAS BEST THAT COULD BE OBTAINED. GOJ FELT THAT ROC COMMERCIAL TIES WERE BEING ADEQUATELY PROTECTED. ROC OBJECTIONS WERE PRIMARILY OVER "MATTERS OF FACE". GOJ UNDER-STOOD ROC CONCERNS BUT FELT THAT IN LAST ANALYSIS ROC WOULD HAVE TO "SHOW SOME FLEXIBILITY".

5. YASUKAWA MADE IT CLEAR THAT GOJ DID NOT INTEND TO ASK THAT US INTERVENE IN ANY WAY WITH ROC. HOWEVER, THEY WANTED TO BE SURE THAT USG WAS AWARE OF FACT THAT GOJ INTENDED TO GO AHEAD WITH CON-CLUSION OF AIR AGREEMENT WITH PRC REGARDLESS OF OBJECTIONS FROM TAIWAN.

6. YASUKAWA SAID ALSO THAT ASIAN BUREAU OF GAIMUSHO WAS FULLY INFORMED ON DETAILS OF AGREEMENT AND WOULD BE HAPPY BRIEF EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE IF DESIRED.

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